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FURTHER REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN MOZAMBIQUE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 916 (1994) of 5 May 1994, by which the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) for a final period until 15 November 1994, subject to the proviso that the Council would review the status of the mandate of ONUMOZ by 15 July and by 5 September 1994 based on further reports by the Secretary-General. Further to my report to the Council of 7 July 1994 (S/1994/803), the present report reflects the situation as of 25 August 1994.

2. This report also focuses on issues raised during the mission of the Security Council which visited Mozambique from 7 to 12 August 1994. In my view, the visit had a very positive impact on the peace process, and I fully share many of the observations and recommendations contained in the mission's presentation to the Council made on 18 August 1994.

II. POLITICAL AND MILITARY ASPECTS

A. General

3. Since my last report to the Council dated 7 July 1994 (S/1994/803), significant progress has been achieved in the peace process in Mozambique. Several of the difficulties cited in my earlier reports have now been overcome. The process of assembly of soldiers of the Government and the Resistência Nacional Moçambicana (RENAMO) has been concluded, and the demobilization of these soldiers is almost complete. A number of decisions have been taken with regard to formation of the new army. More than three quarters of the estimated eligible voter population has been registered for elections. Despite the many challenging tasks that lie ahead, I believe that the major political conditions for holding the elections as planned on 27 and 28 October 1994 are in place.

4. At the same time, there is growing concern about the security situation in the country, which has deteriorated in recent months. On the one hand, rioting

among soldiers in assembly areas as well as in unassembled locations has become frequent and violent. It has resulted in the setting up of roadblocks and the taking of hostages, as well as demands for immediate demobilization and for the provision of various supplies. I hope that with the imminent completion of the demobilization, many of these problems will be overcome. On the other hand, criminal activity and banditry has increased, raising serious concerns about public safety in the period leading up to, during and immediately after the elections.

B. Cease-fire

5. During the period under review, only three complaints of cease-fire violations have been reported to the Cease-fire Commission, two by the Government and one by RENAMO. This brings the total number of complaints since the signing of the general peace agreement to 95. All of these cases have been investigated, and the results were approved by both parties. In general, the cease-fire has been remarkably well respected, and military activities have not posed a serious threat to the cease-fire or to the holding of elections as scheduled.

C. Assembly and demobilization of troops

6. The process of assembly of troops has been completed, and the demobilization will be completed shortly. A total of 43,297 Government troops have passed through the 29 Government assembly areas, and 17,466 RENAMO soldiers have passed through the 20 RENAMO assembly areas. It has been an extremely difficult and sometimes dangerous process. In addition, all unassembled troops have been registered. The Government registered a total of 20,919 unassembled troops and RENAMO registered 4,995 unassembled personnel. The closing of assembly areas began on 18 June 1994. As of 22 August, 12 camps out of 49 had been dismantled.

7. The demobilization process was substantially concluded by 22 August 1994, one week after the deadline of 15 August 1994. All documentation has been processed for the limited number of soldiers who still remain in the assembly areas or at unassembled locations. Most of their cases are pending owing to specific circumstances or to last minute registration. Some were sick or absent at the date of demobilization, while others are in the process of being transferred to the new army. The delay in the demobilization process was the result mainly of the increase in the number of soldiers who were to be demobilized following the decision by the Government and RENAMO in the Supervisory and Monitoring Commission on 25 July 1994 that all soldiers who so wished would be demobilized. As of 22 August, a total of 67,155 soldiers (50,596 Government and 16,559 RENAMO) had been demobilized, while 9,226 (5,724 Government and 3,502 RENAMO) were in the process of being demobilized. In the meantime, the Cease-fire Commission approved a plan for follow-up verification of the completion of assembly and demobilization which will commence on 30 August throughout the country.

8. As of 22 August 1994, the date of completion of the demobilization process, a total of 105,009 weapons (87,767 Government and 17,242 RENAMO) had been collected from troops in the assembly areas as well as unassembled locations. As of the same date, a total of 41,471 weapons had been collected from paramilitary forces out of the projected total of 49,806. Despite the demobilization of a much larger number of troops than initially planned, the number of weapons collected by ONUMOZ is below what was expected. Weapons caches were discovered, some of which contained large quantities of arms. Contrary to the rules approved by the Cease-fire Commission, the United Nations was denied permission to collect and disable weapons at unassembled locations on several occasions. This not only delayed the process of disarmament, but also resulted in a number of potentially serious incidents.

D. Formation of the Mozambican Defence Force

9. In resolution 916 (1994), the Security Council called upon the parties to ensure that the maximum possible number of soldiers were trained for the new Mozambican Defence Force (FADM) before the elections. The Council also called upon the Government of Mozambique to provide logistical and technical support for the formation of FADM, including regular remuneration for the troops, and to initiate the transfer of all central defence facilities to FADM command. The Council will recall that according to the provisions of the general peace agreement (S/24635 and Corr.1, annex), the new Mozambican Defence Force was to be a volunteer army composed of 30,000 soldiers, 15,000 from the Government and 15,000 from RENAMO ranks. In my last report to the Council, I noted the serious difficulties the parties were facing in forming a new armed force of this size prior to the elections, especially as existing training programmes could accommodate only 15,000 soldiers. There have been numerous delays in the formation of the new armed forces which were compounded by logistical problems and by a lack of volunteers to join the new army.

10. As of 22 August, only 7,398 soldiers (3,901 Government and 3,497 RENAMO) had joined FADM. At this stage, no more than 10,000 soldiers are expected to join the new army before the elections. So far, 4,276 FADM soldiers have been trained in the various programmes. These include three infantry battalions totalling 1,567, special forces (919), marines (40), logistics and administration (150), senior officers (150) and de-miners (100). An additional 2,206 soldiers are currently undergoing training. France, Portugal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe have been actively contributing to this very important undertaking, while ONUMOZ provided assistance within the scope of its mandate and resources, including transport of soldiers to training centres.

11. The transfer of authority, equipment and infrastructures from the former army to FADM started in mid-July and was formally completed on 16 August 1994. While the military premises and barracks have been accepted for takeover by FADM, information about the present condition of the equipment to be transferred is insufficient at this time. In order to become fully operational, FADM will require additional military equipment and infrastructures. Although protocol IV of the general peace agreement prescribes that the High Command of FADM shall be subordinate to the Joint Commission for the Formation of the Mozambican Defence

Forces until the new Government takes office, the present division of authority between the Joint Commission and the Ministry of Defence, which continues to function, remains somewhat unclear.

12. The existence of a viable and fully operational Defence Force is an essential element of stability and security in the country. It is therefore of utmost importance that the continuation of the training of new units be encouraged in every way and that all necessary support be provided for the formation of FADM.

E. Security

13. As already noted, the security situation in Mozambique has deteriorated in recent months. Rioting among soldiers, both inside and outside assembly areas, continued to escalate until early August, when most soldiers had been or were in the process of being demobilized. At the same time, the crime level rose dramatically in both rural and urban areas. The Mozambican Police is not properly equipped to control the situation. In spite of the fact that ONUMOZ has stepped up its patrolling and set up checkpoints, in particular along the routes leading from Maputo to Ressano Garcia and to Namaacha, it has so far not been possible to effectively curb the banditry.

F. Status of the military component of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique

14. In accordance with the mandate of ONUMOZ, its military contingents continue to monitor security along the corridors and main routes of the country. At the same time, increasing security problems have necessitated reinforced guarding of United Nations properties and key locations, and a number of ONUMOZ military personnel have been redeployed for this purpose. In paragraph 10 of my last report, I mentioned my intention to deploy a self-contained Brazilian infantry company in Zambezia Province. This company of 170 personnel has now been deployed and is fully operational. With the completion of the demobilization process, ONUMOZ military observers will be actively involved in verifying the demobilization, investigating complaints relating to the cease-fire, verifying weapons caches and monitoring border crossing points, as well as assisting in preparations for the elections. It is my intention, however, to start reducing in September the number of military observers from their mandated strength of 354 officers to approximately 240 before the expiration of the mandate of the mission.

15. It is obvious that the limited scope and mandate of ONUMOZ does not provide and cannot guarantee security and safety in the country. This responsibility lies with the Government, in cooperation with all the Mozambican parties. None the less, in accordance with the overall framework for the Operation (S/24892, sect. III), which was approved by the Security Council in its resolution 797 (1992) of 16 December 1992, ONUMOZ has an important role to play in assisting the Government in providing security to various activities in support of the peace process, especially in strategic routes and around vital installations. I consider it important to step up all ONUMOZ operations aimed

at maintaining security and public order, particularly in the crucial period before, during and immediately after the elections. Also, more flexibility is required in the deployment of United Nations troops in order to provide wider coverage of various parts of the country. This could be an important confidence-building measure. I have instructed my Special Representative, Mr. Aldo Ajello, and the Force Commander, Major-General Mohammad Abdus Salam, in consultation with the Government, to undertake appropriate action urgently. In addition, it would be advisable to strengthen the operational capability of ONUMOZ. This includes, especially, strengthening air support resources in order to give the mission more flexibility to respond to unforeseen developments. At the same time, it might be important for the trained FADM units to start gradual deployment to vital installations in order to ensure a smooth hand-over from ONUMOZ after the elections.

III. POLICE ACTIVITIES

16. ONUMOZ police functions are another important issue, which is closely related to confidence-building, security and the improvement of the overall political climate in the country. As of 22 August 1994, a total of 905 civilian police (CIVPOL) monitors from 26 countries had been deployed in the mission area. In addition to major cities and towns, CIVPOL has established itself in 44 field posts. However, the Mozambican Police has not established its presence in many of the areas formerly controlled by RENAMO. Even in the few areas where the Mozambican Police has established itself, it is often not fully operational.

17. The United Nations CIVPOL undertakes constant and extensive patrolling and frequent visits to prisons and other police installations and conducts investigations of complaints alleging political or human rights abuses. Many of the patrols are conducted jointly with the Mozambican Police. As of 22 August, CIVPOL had received 91 complaints, 14 of which involved human rights violations. Investigation of 78 of the complaints has been completed, while 13 are still pending. On the basis of the CIVPOL investigations, six cases were referred to the National Commission for Police Affairs for action. Another nine cases, which emerged from independent CIVPOL patrol reports on violations committed by the Mozambican Police, were also submitted to the National Commission for Police Affairs for further investigation. The cases continue to fall into three main categories: (a) illegal detention of civilians; (b) abuse of detainees' civil rights; and (c) criminal investigations involving possible political motives. It is a matter of concern that the National Commission for Police Affairs has not yet ruled on the cases referred to it by CIVPOL. Obviously, the deterrent effect of CIVPOL observation would be diluted if no corrective or preventive action follows CIVPOL investigations.

18. In coordination with the Centre for Human Rights, an extensive human rights training programme was organized for CIVPOL monitors. This was the first such programme ever provided to a United Nations civilian police observer force, and has proved very useful to CIVPOL in effectively carrying out its mandated tasks.

IV. PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

19. Voter registration, which began on 1 June 1994, was scheduled to conclude on 15 August, but was extended initially until 20 August. The National Assembly decided on 24 August to extend the registration period until 2 September. As a result, the electoral campaign will begin on 22 September and not 12 September. A proposal by the National Elections Commission to allow registration to continue for an additional 10 days and to shorten the political campaign period accordingly is presently being considered by the National Assembly. The extension is being considered because of the serious logistical problems encountered during the initial phases of the registration process and the need to allow refugees and demobilized soldiers more time to register. As of 22 August 1994, it is estimated that a total of around 6.1 million voters had registered out of an estimated voter population of 7,894,850 people. The National Elections Commission lowered the initial estimate of 8.5 million eligible voters, which was based on the 1980 census and was considered inaccurate. At the same time, the National Elections Commission was unable to reach an agreement on voting arrangements for Mozambican citizens living abroad. On 8 August 1994, codes of conduct for presidential candidates and for political parties and rules on access to the State media were approved by the National Elections Commission.

20. During the registration process, voter education was carried out almost exclusively at registration sites by Mozambican civic education personnel. Some voter education activities were undertaken by local and international non-governmental organizations. However, the need for information and education on the electoral process is far greater than what is presently being provided. The National Elections Commission is in need of additional assistance in order to establish efficient public education programmes, including by means of radio broadcasts. ONUMOZ is actively working with the Government and potential donors in this regard.

21. Technical errors in the registration process, such as the improper filling in of registration forms, registration books and voter cards, occurred frequently during the initial phases of the process, resulting in a number of complaints. The irregularities were found to be the result mainly of inadequate experience or training of registration personnel, and were largely overcome when the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration issued a series of directives providing guidance to the more than 1,600 registration teams. ONUMOZ is monitoring the electoral registration process with some 120 observers, who continually visit and verify various registration sites. Some political parties, particularly RENAMO, have raised allegations of fraud in the electoral process. Complaints included allegations of using false identification, registration of minors and foreigners, embezzlement of electoral funds, as well as using propaganda to discredit opponents. In many cases, these allegations appeared in the media without proper submission of formal complaints to the National Elections Commission. Most of the complaints, including those investigated independently by ONUMOZ, have not been substantiated.

22. In paragraph 21 of my last report to the Security Council, I noted that certain conditions essential for the holding of free and fair elections had not been met. I am pleased to report that since then, voter registration teams have

gained access to all RENAMO-controlled districts. However, logistical problems still exist in areas of difficult accessibility, but these are in the process of being overcome. Unimpeded access by all parties to all areas of the country must be guaranteed.

23. In paragraph 22 of the same report, I drew the attention of the Security Council to a shortfall of US$ 3.8 million in the technical assistance funding for the electoral process. The total budget for this assistance has been increased slightly to US$ 60 million, resulting in a shortfall of US$ 5 million. I reiterate my appeal to donors to bridge this gap in order that preparations for the elections may proceed on schedule. In the meantime, the trust fund for the political parties has now been fully established. Criteria for the disbursement of the fund, as well as procedures for its management, were developed in close consultation with the political parties, the donors and ONUMOZ. Of the total pledges of US$ 3.54 million, only US$ 1.88 million have been received so far, and I urge the donor community to honour their pledges in order to assist all political parties, especially those which are not signatories to the peace agreement, to organize and prepare themselves for active participation in the forthcoming elections. On 19 August 1994, a first disbursement of US$ 50,000 was made to each of the 16 political parties.

24. I also wish to draw the attention of the Security Council to the shortfall in contributions for the trust fund for implementation of the general peace agreement in Mozambique. This fund was established to provide assistance to RENAMO, as one of the parties to the Rome agreement, in its transition from an armed movement to a political party. Of the US$ 14.6 million already pledged to the fund, which is less than originally expected, only US$ 13.6 million have been received. I appeal to the donors to continue to contribute to this fund.

25. Voting on the election days will take place at about 8,000 polling stations connected in groups to 1,600 polling sites. In order to guarantee the credibility of the electoral process, it is important for the international observation to be as extensive as possible. As requested, the United Nations will undertake sample monitoring. For the actual polling and counting of votes, the United Nations intends to deploy 1,200 electoral observers, as initially planned. However, only 900 observers are covered by the ONUMOZ budget. The remainder will be drawn from existing ONUMOZ staff. The United Nations electoral personnel will be complemented by additional observers provided by Member States, various international organizations, including the European Union and the Association of West European Parliamentarians, and various non-governmental organizations. ONUMOZ intends to coordinate all external verification activities in order to avoid duplication or gaps in the observation process.

26. The most effective way to enhance the credibility of the elections is to ensure that the Mozambican political parties themselves participate extensively in the electoral observation process. Most of the smaller parties, however, do not have the capacity to participate in verification on a large scale. To this end, the parties will need technical and financial support from the donor community. Pledges towards the funding of this important endeavour have already been made by the European Community and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). A programme aimed at strengthening the

capacities of the political parties is presently being developed by ONUMOZ in consultation with donors. I appeal to the international community to provide financial resources for the implementation of this important endeavour.

V. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

27. The implementation of humanitarian activities continues to proceed along the lines described in my previous report. About 75 per cent of the estimated 3.7 million persons who were internally displaced at the time of signature of the general peace agreement have now been resettled. There are still an estimated 342,000 refugees in neighbouring countries who are expected to return to Mozambique by the end of 1994. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has initiated projects aimed at improving living conditions in areas where the returnees are concentrated. These projects are being implemented by non-governmental organizations. With the participation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Save the Children Fund-United Kingdom, the International Organization for Migration and the World Food Programme, assistance is now being provided in ex-RENAMO areas to children and youths with war experience. Under the overall coordination of the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Assistance Coordination, this assistance is provided to the children while they are in transit centres and will continue until they are reunited with their families.

28. The Reintegration Commission recently approved the creation of a provincial fund to provide small- and medium-sized grants for the employment of ex-soldiers. The fund will also facilitate their participation in community-based economic activities. With the creation of the provincial fund, the reintegration programme for demobilized soldiers now has four main components. The other three are: the reintegration support scheme, which provides each demobilized soldier with an 18-month subsidy in addition to six months of pay upon demobilization; career counselling and problem solving services; and the occupational skills development programme, which coordinates reintegration and training programmes and helps provide access to employment opportunities.

29. As I indicated to the Security Council in previous reports, I have been concerned over the inordinate delays experienced in the implementation of the United Nations mine-clearance programme, which comprises four components: the national mines survey, the clearing of mines along 2,000 kilometres of priority roads, the establishment of the Mine-clearance Training Centre and the creation of a national de-mining capacity. The total cost of this programme is US$ 18.5 million, which is met through an allocation of US$ 11 million from within the ONUMOZ budget and by contributions to the trust fund for de-mining activities totalling US$ 7.5 million. At the beginning of 1993, the United Nations Development Programme/Office for Project Services (UNDP/OPS) was given the responsibility of managing the de-mining programme, including the implementation of the survey and the clearing of priority roads, for which US$ 14 million had been allocated. A separate allocation of some US$ 3 million was made for the establishment and operation of the Mine-clearing Training Centre.

30. In view of the concern of the Security Council and my own concern regarding the disappointing pace of implementation of the United Nations mine-clearance programme, I had assured the Council that every effort would be made to accelerate the programme. In May 1994, a plan to accelerate the implementation of the mine-clearance programme was put into place. This programme includes the strengthening of the Mine-clearance Training Centre, the training of Mozambican de-miners, supervisors and instructors, and the creation of a national de-mining authority by November 1994. In order to facilitate the timely implementation of the accelerated programme, the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Assistance Coordination has been reinforced by additional specialized staff dedicated solely to de-mining issues.

31. The national mine survey, which was undertaken by a British non-governmental organization, Halo Trust, has now been completed. The information from this survey has provided the basis for the individual reports of the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Assistance Coordination on mines in the 10 provinces of Mozambique. The UNDP/OPS-implemented project to de-mine 2,000 kilometres of priority roads finally commenced in July 1994. To date, 209 kilometres of roads in Manica Province have been cleared. De-mining activities are also being undertaken by Norwegian People's Aid in Maputo Province, by Halo Trust in Zambezia Province and by Ronco, a USAID contractor, in Sofala Province.

32. Following the decision to move the Mine-clearance Training Centre to a permanent site in Tete, the rehabilitation of the proposed facilities began in mid-June. Although it was originally envisaged that the Centre would become operational by the first week of August, it was not possible to complete the rehabilitation work on time. To date, 119 Mozambican de-miners have been trained by the Centre. In order to accelerate the training programme, the Centre began offering two courses simultaneously, for 60 students each, on 23 August 1994. By the end of November 1994, it is expected that the overall target of training 450 de-miners will have been achieved. The trained Mozambican de-miners will work under the leadership of contracted expatriate supervisors. The first group of expatriate supervisors have arrived and two de-mining teams comprised of trained Mozambican de-miners have been formed. These teams will commence de-mining activities within selected areas of Maputo Province in September 1994. It is expected that at the end of May 1995, Mozambican supervisors trained at the Centre will replace the expatriate supervisors, with additional practical training being provided to them to ensure that adequate competence and safety standards are achieved.

33. The implementation of the de-mining programme will clearly have to continue well beyond the mandate of ONUMOZ. At present, the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Assistance Coordination is performing a number of coordination and management functions. However, proposals regarding the contracting of an organization to provide management training to enable Mozambicans to assume these functions are currently being considered. In addition, consultations are in progress with all concerned in an effort to reach agreement on the most suitable coordination and financing mechanisms to ensure continuity of the de-mining programme after the departure of ONUMOZ.

VI. CLOSURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN MOZAMBIQUE AND WITHDRAWAL OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PERSONNEL

34. The Security Council, by its resolution 916 (1994), extended the mandate of ONUMOZ for a final period until 15 November 1994 at the strength described in paragraphs 22, 24 and 25 of my report of 28 April 1994 (S/1994/511). As I noted in paragraph 35 of my last report (S/1994/803), the withdrawal of ONUMOZ civilian and military personnel will begin immediately after the elections and is scheduled to be concluded by the end of January 1995. It will be recalled that in accordance with protocol III of the general peace agreement, the presence of ONUMOZ would be required until such time as the new Government takes office. Thus, the planned withdrawal would obviously depend on: (a) the holding of peaceful, as well as free and fair, elections on 27 and 28 October 1994; (b) the timely announcement of the election results no later than 12 November 1994; and (c) the timely establishment of a new Government. Furthermore, should a second ballot be required for the election of the President, adjustments in the withdrawal schedule might be required.

35. Paragraphs 36 and 37 of my last report also presented a detailed description of various departure schedules. However, after further review of logistic and administrative conditions, slight changes have been introduced to the withdrawal phase of some components. In particular, it is intended that the withdrawal of the staff of the humanitarian component should begin immediately after the elections and be completed by the end of November. By that time, all humanitarian activities extending beyond the mandate of ONUMOZ would be transferred to the Government and/or to other United Nations organizations and agencies.

36. The international electoral observers will depart the mission area immediately after the elections. The withdrawal of the international officers of the ONUMOZ Electoral Division and the United Nations volunteer monitors will commence immediately after the elections; the majority of them will leave after the election results are published and the elections are officially declared free and fair.

37. The withdrawal of ONUMOZ police observers is planned to take place in three phases. Phase one will start on 10 November 1994, when a total of 652 monitors will be withdrawn from various posts throughout the country. Phase two will start on 18 November, when 292 monitors will be withdrawn from the provincial and regional headquarters. Phase three will start on 25 November and will be completed by mid-December, when the 200 monitors at the regional and central headquarters will be withdrawn.

38. The reduction in strength of the ONUMOZ military component will begin on 15 November 1994, as previously planned. The tentative withdrawal schedule now stands as follows: the Bangladesh contingent will depart between 25 November and 12 December 1994; the Botswana contingent on 8 December 1994; the Brazilian company on 27 and 28 November 1994; the Uruguayan contingent from 29 November to 11 December 1994; and the Zambian battalion from 4 to 13 December 1994. The withdrawal of the support units, namely, the Japanese movement control, the Portuguese signals battalion, the Indian headquarters company and the Argentine and Italian hospitals, will begin on 28 November and

be completed by the end of December 1994. Until the final closure of the mission by the end of January 1995, only a limited number of civilian logisticians, military specialists, staff officers and a small detachment of infantry to provide security protection to United Nations personnel and property would remain in the country.

VII. OBSERVATIONS

39. The significant progress achieved in the implementation of the peace process in Mozambique since I last reported to the Security Council has been encouraging. With the imminent conclusion of the demobilization of troops, the peace process has reached its final phase - the preparations for and the conduct of the elections. The electoral process itself is progressing well. The most significant role of the United Nations during the next two months will involve technical preparations for elections and assistance in bringing about the conditions necessary for the holding of free and fair elections, as well as in the creation of an environment conducive to a stable and peaceful transition to a democratically elected Government. By all indications, the necessary conditions exist for holding the elections in Mozambique as scheduled.

40. While much will depend on the political will of the Mozambican people and the parties to achieve this goal, a great deal remains to be accomplished in order to ensure that the elections lead to political stability. The Mozambican parties might wish to explore, prior to the elections, the possibility of concluding an arrangement that would enable opposition parties to play a legitimate and meaningful role in the post-electoral period. Such an arrangement could also facilitate the establishment of a government that would ensure the consolidation of peace, political stability and national reconciliation.

41. The transition period that lies ahead for Mozambique will not be an easy one. It will require, above all, statesmanship and a commitment to accommodate various interests. It will be equally important to ensure secure and stable conditions in the country. This will call for a determined effort to continue training and properly equipping a new national army and to upgrade the national police. While the primary responsibilities in this regard rest with the Government, I trust that present and potential donors will provide assistance in those important areas, even after the elections.

42. With the generous assistance of donors, considerable progress has been made in implementing humanitarian programmes in Mozambique. In addition to helping alleviate the suffering of large numbers of vulnerable and disadvantaged persons, the impartial and equitable delivery of humanitarian assistance is contributing to the overall efforts to achieve national reconciliation after many years of civil war. With the completion of the demobilization of Government and RENAMO soldiers, the implementation of various programmes for the reintegration of demobilized soldiers will be able to proceed more speedily. The progress finally being made in the de-mining programme is overdue but points in the right direction. Bearing in mind the long-term nature of the problem, it will be essential for appropriate financial and other forms of assistance to be

provided to the Government to continue with mine-clearance activities after the termination of the mandate of ONUMOZ. I consider it of critical importance that adequate arrangements be put in place for the coordination of all humanitarian and rehabilitation programmes during the transition phase after the departure of ONUMOZ. In this connection, consultations will be held between the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Assistance Coordination and United Nations agencies as well as with the Government and donors to ensure the effective implementation of humanitarian programmes. On the basis of these consultations, proposals will be drawn up for my consideration.

43. I have often stressed that it was up to the people of Mozambique and their leaders to make a determined effort to ensure the full and timely implementation of the Rome agreement and to bring about national reconciliation in the country. I have also urged the international community to continue to contribute generously to various funds and activities aimed at achieving a stable and lasting peace in the country. As the peace process approaches its final leg, it will be incumbent upon all concerned in Mozambique to redouble their efforts to ensure that the elections are conducted in a free and fair manner and that the transitional period promotes national reconciliation and stability. I should also like to remind all parties, once again, of their obligation to respect the results of the elections. The United Nations, for its part, is determined to continue actively to pursue the full implementation of the Rome agreement and to facilitate the efforts of the people of Mozambique to bring it to a successful conclusion.

44. I would like to pay tribute to the dedication and professionalism of the staff of ONUMOZ, in particular to my Special Representative and the Force Commander, in carrying out the challenging tasks entrusted to them.